

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-11. (Cancelled)

Do not enter
PRW 12/23/07

12. (Currently Amended) A fluid transfer device, comprising:

a lid portion;

an edge portion connected to the lid portion, the edge portion and lid portion forming a receiving cap, the receiving cap defining a space configured to receive a bead of a container closed by an elastic stopper, the edge portion being configured to center the bead within the space when the bead is substantially disposed in the space; and

a piercing mandrel connected to the lid portion and projecting into the space,

wherein the piercing mandrel includes a piercing portion configured to pierce the elastic stopper while the bead is being substantially disposed in the space;

wherein the piercing mandrel further includes a sealing portion formed integrally with and extending from the lid portion, the sealing portion contacting the piercing portion and having a diameter greater than a diameter of the piercing portion, the sealing portion being configured to contact the elastic stopper when the bead is substantially disposed in the space;

wherein a distance between a base of the sealing portion and an end of the sealing portion on the piercing mandrel is less than a length between the base of the sealing portion and a lower surface of the elastic stopper within the container;